

Caribbean Regional Program

The Development Challenge: Caribbean countries face numerous challenges including declining revenue from their traditional mainstay crops (sugar and bananas); the gradual removal of preferential market agreements previously upheld by their former colonial governments; the use of obsolete and outdated methods and equipment in key commercial, industrial, and support service areas; vulnerability to certain natural disasters including earthquakes, hurricanes and volcanic eruptions; increased drug trafficking and money laundering through the region; and more recently the rapid spread of the HIV/AIDS virus. The Caribbean region now has the second highest HIV/AIDS prevalence rate in the world, registering 2.2% at the end of 2001. According to the Caribbean Development Bank's 2001 Annual Report, 13 of the 17 Caribbean states recorded declining levels of economic performance in 2001, compared to 10 in 2000. Six countries registered outright negative growth and of the four that recorded increases, three were under two percent. These countries are still reeling from the effects of the September 2001 terrorist attacks, which further exacerbated the situation by triggering a dramatic fall-off in tourist arrivals immediately after the event.

USAID has worked closely with its Caribbean partners to develop the Third Border Initiative (TBI), a Presidential Initiative launched in 2002. TBI is designed to address constraints to competitiveness in the region through teacher training, business scholarships, HIV/AIDS prevention, disaster mitigation, enhancement of security for tourism, and preparation for the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). These objectives coincide with U.S. foreign policy interests in the region -- promoting free trade and economic development, safeguarding the natural environment, and enhancing justice and security. The Caribbean Regional Program, centered on the TBI, is geared toward preparing governments and private entrepreneurs in major sectors of the Caribbean economies to compete effectively in the FTAA (expected to enter into force in 2005), meet World Trade Organization requirements, and more effectively reduce major threats to stability in the region. Priority areas include liberalization of key telecommunications and financial sectors, improved environmental management by the major productive sectors, especially tourism, increased efficiencies in the justice system, and mobilization of governments and NGOs to fight against the spread of HIV/AIDS.

The USAID Program: Through a combination of technical assistance and training in both the public and private sectors, USAID's Caribbean Regional Program is: 1) improving the business environment in the Caribbean by helping the private sector diversify and produce goods and services compliant with international standards and developing more open and transparent legal and regulatory structures in the commercial sector; 2) promoting more responsible environmental practices; 3) increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of legal systems in the Caribbean; and 4) enhancing the region's ability to respond to the HIV/AIDS crisis. Implementation of the Administration's Third Border Initiative, particularly trade development and HIV/AIDS prevention, is a prime focus of the Caribbean Regional Program. Activities funded by FY 2003 and FY 2004 appropriations are described in the Data Sheets below.

USAID is working closely with regional governments and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), as well as the private sector, to achieve these objectives. These groups have demonstrated strong commitment to the program but are hampered by limited human resources, sub-standard business practices, stifling government bureaucracies, gaps in policy frameworks and inadequate public education programs. USAID's efforts to strengthen the capacity of these organizations are beginning to pay off.

Other Program Elements: USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance is carrying out disaster mitigation activities to reduce risk and losses from natural hazard impacts, educate the public on such hazards, and establish an effective framework for disaster management in the region. The Office of Regional Sustainable Development in the Latin America and Caribbean Bureau (LAC/RSD) is funding hemisphere-wide capacity building efforts in the areas of trade and economic growth. USAID's Economic Growth, Agriculture, and Trade Bureau is supporting loan programs targeted at micro- and small enterprises, and assisting in environmental management initiatives.

Other Donors: There is strong donor coordination in the Caribbean region. The International Monetary Fund, the United Nations Development Program, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the European Union (EU), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID), and USAID have pooled resources to address the urgent and demanding need for fiscal and monetary reform by establishing the Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Center. Donor coordination also continues in the area of HIV/AIDS where USAID, CIDA, the German development agency, EU, DFID, and the Pan American Health Organization are partnering to help the Caribbean Epidemiology Center implement its HIV/AIDS strategic plan for its 22 member countries. USAID's work in the Caribbean is complemented by the World Bank and the IDB in telecommunications, and CIDA in the area of judicial reform in the Resident Magistrate Courts. The Organization of American States and CIDA support small hotel programs. CIDA and the IDB also have programs in trade reform and integration.

**Caribbean Regional Program
PROGRAM SUMMARY**

(in thousands of dollars)

Accounts	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Prior Request	FY 2004 Request
Child Survival and Health Programs Fund	1,497	3,550	4,688	6,532
Development Assistance	0	0	9,000	3,480
Economic Support Fund	6,985	10,800	3,000	9,000
Total Program Funds	8,482	14,350	16,688	19,012

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE SUMMARY

538-004 Competitiveness in the Caribbean				
DA	0	0	5,000	2,905
ESF	2,500	4,600	1,000	6,075
538-005 Improved Environmental Management				
DA	0	0	3,000	0
ESF	2,500	3,300	0	2,500
538-006 Rule of Law				
DA	0	0	1,000	575
ESF	1,985	1,000	0	425
538-008 HIV/AIDS				
CSH	1,497	3,550	4,688	6,532
ESF	0	1,900	2,000	0
598-023 Education and Training (CETT)				
DA	0	0	(1,000)	0

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Caribbean Regional Program
Program Title:	Competitiveness in the Caribbean
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	538-004
Status:	Continuing
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$5,000,000 DA; \$1,000,000 ESF
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$2,905,000 DA; \$6,075,000 ESF
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2000
Estimated Completion Date:	FY 2004

Summary: USAID's program to improve the business environment of the Caribbean to meet international standards is being carried out on two fronts -- enhancing the private sector's capacity to deliver goods and services competitively, and supporting the public sector in developing legislative and regulatory structures that encourage and facilitate trade and international business development. NOTE: The name of this program has changed from "Increased employment and diversification in select non-traditional activities" to "Improved business environment to meet international standards."

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

Improve capacity of firms to deliver goods and services (\$3,100,000 DA, \$1,000,000 ESF). An additional \$500,000 is being notified with this program data sheet over what was notified last year. Assistance to the private sector will strengthen competitiveness through trade capacity building. Working with the Export Development Unit of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), USAID will provide assistance to approximately 100 firms to improve their productivity and product quality and become more competitive. USAID will seek to identify and develop key sectors using a cluster approach. Technical assistance will help select industries develop a strategy and action plan to implement common and innovative approaches to expand their capacity for entering collectively into the global market. To help both the private and public sectors identify constraints to doing business in the Caribbean, USAID will finance technical assistance to develop business roadmaps in four countries. USAID will initiate a training program to enhance the region's human capacity in areas related to competitiveness. A communication and trade information dissemination initiative will expose the private sector to information on the implications of Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) and other trade agreements. The principal contractor is being selected. The grantee is the OECS Secretariat Export Development Unit.

Establish a legislative/policy framework that supports competition (\$1,900,000 DA). Working with the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) governments and the CARICOM Regional Negotiating Machinery, USAID will help develop a regulatory framework and legal environment more conducive to competition within the global economy. USAID-financed technical assistance will help modernize laws and regulations to encourage competition in support of FTAA. In cooperation with the CARICOM Regional Negotiating Machinery, USAID will develop a strategy to educate member country public sector officials on FTAA and other international trade agreements. USAID will finance technical assistance from the Pan-American Health Organization to develop appropriate sanitary and phytosanitary legislation and regulations. Through the Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Center, USAID will continue to provide technical assistance and training related to finance for Caribbean governments. As part of its highly successful program to deregulate the telecommunications industry in OECS countries, USAID will finance technical assistance to the regulatory authority Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications to draft model licenses and regulations for interconnection and tariffs, licensing, spectrum allocation, and management. Additionally, technical assistance will be provided to the Government of Barbados to complete its telecommunications deregulation process. Principal grantees are the CARICOM Regional

Negotiating Machinery, the OECS Secretariat Export Development Unit, and the Pan American Health Organization.

FY 2004 Program:

Improve capacity of firms to deliver goods and services (\$700,000 DA, \$6,075,000 ESF). USAID plans to continue its initiative to provide technical assistance to firms to help them deliver goods and services that meet or exceed international standards. The activity to develop competitive clusters of industries may be accelerated and special emphasis placed on ensuring the sustainability of target sectors. Elimination of business constraints will continue to be a key priority in the region. USAID is planning to continue to assist the private sector to fully understand the implications of international trade.

Establish a legislative/policy framework that supports competition (\$2,205,000 DA). USAID plans to continue to work with CARICOM governments, the CARICOM Regional Negotiating Machinery, and other related public sector entities to develop a regulatory framework and legal environment more conducive to competition within the global economy. Technical assistance will continue to help modernize laws and regulations to encourage competition in support of FTAA. The activity to develop sanitary and phytosanitary standards for OECS countries will be concluded with the development of appropriate legislation and regulations.

Performance and Results: USAID is achieving excellent results in improving the quality of products available for export and increasing export sales of targeted firms. Over the past year, USAID helped 22 firms meet international requirements for product export. Application of new productivity techniques and marketing strategies helped targeted firms increase their total export sales by 14% in 2002. Remarkable progress has been made in reforming the telecommunications sector in the Eastern Caribbean. As a result of USAID assistance, the Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications (ECTEL) regulatory authority was established, and all ECTEL member countries have passed at least 60% of the regulations and licenses related to interconnections, spectrum management, spectrum and license fees, and numbering. With legislation and regulations put in place to make the telecommunications sector more competitive, evidence is showing a substantial increase in investment from \$27 million in 2001 to \$64 million in 2002. This investment has had a positive impact on employment levels in the sector with existing firms expanding and new companies entering into the market.

By the end of the strategy, it is expected that the Caribbean region will have a business environment conducive to competition in the global marketplace. By 2004, approximately 100 firms will have adopted international standards of best business practices, thereby improving their productivity, profitability, and capability to compete internationally. An operational telecommunications regulatory structure will increase the number of new businesses in the region.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Caribbean Regional Program

	DA	ESF
538-004 Competitiveness in the Caribbean		
Through September 30, 2001		
Obligations	457	5,000
Expenditures	357	422
Unliquidated	100	4,578
Fiscal Year 2002		
Obligations	0	4,700
Expenditures	0	1,468
Through September 30, 2002		
Obligations	457	9,700
Expenditures	357	1,890
Unliquidated	100	7,810
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA		
Obligations	5,000	1,000
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003		
Obligations	5,000	1,000
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA		
Obligations	2,905	6,075
Future Obligations	20,000	6,075
Est. Total Cost	28,362	22,850

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Caribbean Regional Program
Program Title:	Improved Environmental Management
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	538-005
Status:	Continuing
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$3,000,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$2,500,000 ESF
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2000
Estimated Completion Date:	FY 2004

Summary: USAID's program to improve environmental management within the Eastern Caribbean involves technical assistance and training to facilitate the adoption of best environmental management practices, policies, and standards in small enterprises; environmental marketing and education to promote awareness; and access to financing for environmental improvements.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

Increase environmental management practices (\$2,000,000 DA). This program data sheet notifies an additional \$250,000 over what was notified last year to provide necessary resources for a renewable energy activity. USAID will continue to educate key groups on identification and implementation of environmental management practices. Approximately 160 small hotels will benefit from environmental assessments that identify energy and cost savings and environmental audits will help approximately 40 small hotels establish environmental management systems. Adoption of environmental management systems that meet international standards will enable 20 hotels to achieve "green certification" under a Caribbean brand that promotes small hotels using sound environmental practices. USAID-financed technical assistance will help establish five additional resource centers which will provide small businesses with access to information about environmental management practices. To reduce environmental damage and enhance economic growth, USAID will fund technical assistance to help develop renewable energy sources and technologies. Through a pilot activity that may be replicated on other islands, USAID is providing technical assistance to develop a strategy for the island of Dominica to achieve eco-destination certification. Principal contractors and grantees are the Organization of American States, P.A. Consulting Group, the Caribbean Alliance for Sustainable Tourism, and the University of New Orleans Foundation.

Increase access to environmental improvement financing (\$1,000,000 DA). This program data sheet notifies an additional \$250,000 over what was notified last year to fund a loan guarantee initiative being planned with the Development Credit Authority. Through the Development Credit Authority program, USAID and a regional bank will develop a credit guarantee program to make credit more readily available to tourism enterprises for environmental improvements such as energy efficient equipment, solar water heaters and other environmentally friendly investments. Technical assistance will be provided to structure an investment facility for small enterprises, including hotels, to access funds for environmental and hotel upgrades necessary to meet requirements for the Caribbean Experiences brand and international standards. The principal grantee is the Organization of American States.

FY 2004 Program:

Increase environmental management practices (\$2,000,000 ESF). USAID plans to continue to provide training and technical assistance to small hotels to improve their environmental management capacities and enhance their competitiveness. In addition, USAID expects to give considerable attention to identifying and improving the financial viability of sites and attractions including historical sites, eco-tourism sites, and national historic parks. A limited number of sites may be targeted to address

biodiversity concerns. USAID will consider continuing assistance to help Dominica, and perhaps other states, obtain certification as an eco-destination. The principal contractors and grantees are the Organization of American States and P.A. Consulting Group.

Increase access to environmental improvement financing (\$500,000 ESF). USAID plans to continue to provide funds for the investment facility and credit guarantee program for renewable energy efficiency and environmental upgrades. The principal contractor is not yet selected.

Performance and Results: USAID efforts to help organizations adopt best environmental practices led to impressive gains in the region. To date, 206 tourism organizations have adopted improved environmental practices, including purchase of energy efficient equipment, installation of solar water heaters, and establishing systems for solid and liquid waste disposal. Approximately 481 organizations received environmental information during FYs 2001-2002, many through the eight USAID-established resource centers in countries throughout the region. Training and briefings for hotel staff, as well as utilization of "how to" brochures on environmental practices and hotel management, helped hoteliers make important changes. Ten hoteliers involved with the program obtained financing for environmental upgrades. This number is expected to increase substantially when the investment facility and loan guarantee program begin.

By assisting the region address environmental concerns, this program will help protect critical ecosystems and are vital to tourism and economic growth.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Caribbean Regional Program

	DA	ESF
538-005 Improved Environmental Management		
Through September 30, 2001		
Obligations	653	5,000
Expenditures	384	711
Unliquidated	269	4,289
Fiscal Year 2002		
Obligations	0	3,100
Expenditures	29	1,305
Through September 30, 2002		
Obligations	653	8,100
Expenditures	413	2,016
Unliquidated	240	6,084
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA		
Obligations	3,000	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003		
Obligations	3,000	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA		
Obligations	0	2,500
Future Obligations	0	0
Est. Total Cost	3,653	10,600

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Caribbean Regional Program
Program Title:	Rule of Law
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	538-006
Status:	Continuing
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$1,000,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$575,000 DA; \$425,000 ESF
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2000
Estimated Completion Date:	FY 2004

Summary: USAID's Rule of Law program is improving the efficiency and fairness of legal systems in the Caribbean by 1) providing technical assistance, training, and commodities to the Eastern Caribbean Courts to modernize the legal system and increase access to legal information; 2) providing technical assistance and commodities to physically establish the Caribbean Court of Justice, which will address trade disputes; and 3) providing technical assistance to revise and update laws related to the Caribbean Single Market and Economy, justice, and security.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

Improve efficiency of legal systems (\$300,000 DA). To modernize the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Supreme Court and Court of Appeal, USAID will fund technical assistance to streamline appellate procedures and training courses for judges and court staff on the use of the Judicial Enforcement Management Systems case management software for areas such as jury management. To establish automated court reporting in three additional OECS countries, USAID will continue to train court reporters and procure equipment. USAID will replicate the court-connected alternative dispute resolution system established last year in St. Lucia in two additional OECS countries. Based on an evaluation of the effectiveness of public education efforts, USAID will continue to educate the public on the role of the new Caribbean Court of Justice, which has become a legal entity with original jurisdiction over trade disputes, and provide technical assistance and equipment to assist with its physical establishment. Principal grantees are the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat, the OECS Secretariat, and the British Virgin Island Academy of Court Reporting.

Improve access to legal training (\$200,000 DA). USAID will fund four specialized training courses in technical areas such as legal writing and sentencing for judges and key judicial personnel to improve their capability to perform duties more efficiently and knowledgeably. The principal grantee is the OECS Secretariat.

Revise and update laws (\$500,000 DA). USAID will fund technical assistance to help establish a regional Legislative Drafting Facility within the CARICOM Secretariat. The facility will draft legislation with respect to the Caribbean Single Market and Economy, international trade, HIV/AIDS, and justice and security issues. It will be the focal point for the development of new regional laws in critical areas such as money laundering, assets forfeiture, and terrorism. The principal grantee is the CARICOM Secretariat.

FY 2004 Program:

Improve efficiency of legal systems (\$300,000 DA). USAID expects to continue efforts to streamline the Court of Appeal's appellate process and establish the Caribbean Court of Justice. USAID is planning to fund additional training for judges and court staff in use of the Judicial Enforcement Management Systems software in areas such as financial management. USAID is planning to replicate alternative dispute resolution facilities in the two OECS countries that will not yet have them.

Improve access to legal training (\$200,000 DA). USAID plans to train judges and court staff in four specialized areas with at least one course utilizing distance education techniques.

Revise and update laws (\$75,000 DA, \$425,000 ESF). USAID expects to continue technical assistance to the regional Legislative Drafting Facility to help develop new regional laws in the areas of trade, justice, and security.

Performance and Results: For the first time in history, the courts, judges, and personnel of the High Courts and High Court Offices in the six OECS countries all have access to a computerized case tracking system. This advance dramatically improves the efficiency of the court system in disposing of both criminal and civil cases, and 900 backlogged civil cases have been cleared from the system this past year. Automated court reporting has been established in St. Kitts and Grenada. Both of these countries are experiencing an improvement in the ability of judges to obtain transcripts of judicial proceedings more expeditiously. USAID has successfully established the first court-based alternative dispute resolution system in the OECS countries in St. Lucia. To date, judges have referred 42 cases from the formal High Court system to alternative dispute resolution, 19 have been scheduled for mediation, and 10 mediations have successfully concluded to the satisfaction of the parties involved.

With successful completion of this program in 2004, the OECS court system will operate more efficiently. Judges will be more knowledgeable of modernized techniques, the public will benefit from access to a more open and democratic system, and laws will be developed to support free trade and competition, curb international crime, and protect human rights.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Caribbean Regional Program

	DA	ESF
538-006 Rule of Law		
Through September 30, 2001		
Obligations	120	3,975
Expenditures	120	423
Unliquidated	0	3,552
Fiscal Year 2002		
Obligations	0	1,000
Expenditures	0	650
Through September 30, 2002		
Obligations	120	4,975
Expenditures	120	1,073
Unliquidated	0	3,902
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA		
Obligations	1,000	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003		
Obligations	1,000	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA		
Obligations	575	425
Future Obligations	0	0
Est. Total Cost	1,695	5,400

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Caribbean Regional Program
Program Title:	HIV/AIDS
Pillar:	Global Health
Strategic Objective:	538-008
Status:	Continuing
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$4,688,000 CSH; \$2,000,000 ESF
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$6,532,000 CSH
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2001
Estimated Completion Date:	FY 2005

Summary: USAID's HIV/AIDS program works to mitigate the destructive effects of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the Caribbean as well as to prevent further harm. USAID works in collaboration with other partners to support a range of activities that boost the capacities of local, national, and regional organizations to mount a coordinated regional response to HIV/AIDS. The program includes an NGO strengthening program, support to the Caribbean Epidemiology Center, and a training of master trainers program in voluntary counseling and testing. The program also provides support to establish a network of regional HIV/AIDS training centers, as well as support to the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Pan Caribbean Partnership against AIDS, the Coordinating Committee of National AIDS, and the regional governmental coordinating bodies on HIV/AIDS.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

Increase NGO capacity to deliver HIV/AIDS programs (\$1,838,000 CSH, \$600,000 ESF). Resources will be used to establish nongovernmental organization (NGO) networks in Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago, and possibly one other country, to support HIV/AIDS prevention programs. USAID will assist NGOs in defining indicators to monitor and evaluate their programs, which were strengthened through this activity in the previous year. Technical assistance and training will strengthen additional NGOs on strategic planning, resource mobilization, financial management, and addressing stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS. To enhance information sharing on programs, issues, policies, and fundraising, USAID will fund technical assistance to help NGOs design web pages for country-level networks and establish an electronic link between all the networks. USAID will continue to work with the International HIV/AIDS Alliance in reaching traditionally hard-to-reach, particularly vulnerable populations. The "south-to-south" sharing of good practices and technical expertise will be facilitated by working closely with five already established NGOs from the Caribbean region. Principal contractors and grantees are Family Health International, the International HIV/AIDS Alliance, and Peace Corps.

Increase government capacity to respond to HIV/AIDS (\$2,850,000 CSH, \$1,400,000 ESF). USAID will continue to support the Caribbean Epidemiology Center (CAREC) by providing technical assistance to draft and implement national strategic plans to combat HIV/AIDS, strengthen national testing systems, maintain a regional reference lab, and conduct national-level surveillance. Training on the use of CAREC's Third Generation Surveillance Guidelines will continue, and seroprevalence studies will be conducted in 11 countries. Working with national ministries and local NGOs, funds will be used to expand voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) services by integrating VCT programs into existing reproductive health initiatives and conducting training for VCT master trainers. In addition, USAID will support training for teachers and guidance counselors in targeted countries on HIV/AIDS. USAID plans to expand its support for technical assistance to establish a network of HIV/AIDS regional training centers, including centers in Jamaica, Haiti, and Barbados, as well as a coordinating Secretariat based at the University of the West Indies. USAID will support the CARICOM Secretariat to conduct human and legal rights assessments in eight countries in the region and to strengthen the Pan Caribbean Partnership against

HIV/AIDS. Principal contractors and grantees are the Caribbean Epidemiology Center, CARICOM Secretariat/Pan Caribbean Partnership against AIDS, Johns Hopkins Program in International Education on Gynecology and Obstetrics, and the Ministry of Health in Jamaica.

FY 2004 Program:

Increase NGO capacity to deliver HIV/AIDS programs (\$2,416,000 CSH). USAID plans to expand the NGO network to include additional countries. Continuation of training and technical assistance to NGOs would further strengthen their capacity to carry out effective HIV/AIDS programs and initiatives in the region. USAID anticipates expanding its "south-to-south" program to include additional NGOs, and continuing its work with special populations.

Increase government capacity to respond to HIV/AIDS (\$4,116,000 CSH). USAID plans to continue to support the efforts of the Caribbean Epidemiology Center to facilitate and monitor development and implementation of national strategic plans to combat HIV/AIDS and strengthen national surveillance capabilities. Continued support to the CARICOM Secretariat will allow USAID to disseminate findings on human and legal rights of persons living with HIV/AIDS in the region, and draft legislation to guarantee basic civil rights for people living with HIV/AIDS.

Performance and Results: Formulation and implementation of national strategic plans to combat HIV/AIDS continues to be a priority for almost every country in the region. Thirteen of the 21 Caribbean countries have drafted or approved a plan, and USAID is helping to develop a system that will monitor implementation progress. USAID has developed vibrant HIV/AIDS NGO networks in three countries (St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and St. Kitts and Nevis) where there were none a year ago. These networks represent unified coalitions of small organizations that speak to their governments about HIV/AIDS with one voice and plan complementary activities, such as training in palliative care, public speaking competitions on HIV/AIDS in schools, and a Red Cross campaign against stigma and discrimination.

By the end of the strategy period, there will be an increased number of NGOs that provide HIV/AIDS prevention and care services, and greater government capacity to implement a coordinated and effective response to HIV/AIDS.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Caribbean Regional Program

538-008 HIV/AIDS	CSH	ESF
Through September 30, 2001		
Obligations	1,497	0
Expenditures	980	0
Unliquidated	517	0
Fiscal Year 2002		
Obligations	3,550	2,000
Expenditures	494	0
Through September 30, 2002		
Obligations	5,047	2,000
Expenditures	1,474	0
Unliquidated	3,573	2,000
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA		
Obligations	4,688	2,000
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003		
Obligations	4,688	2,000
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA		
Obligations	6,532	0
Future Obligations	20,000	2,000
Est. Total Cost	36,267	6,000